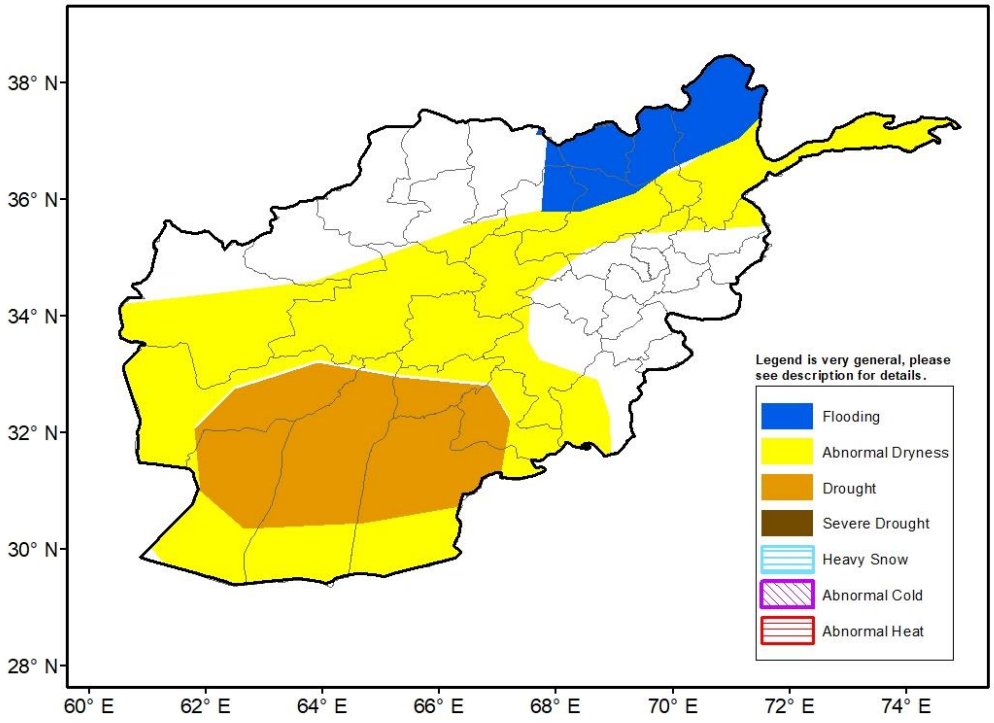
Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
March 25 – March 31, 2021

Temperatures:

Temperatures averaged above normal during the past week across most of Afghanistan. A period of colder than normal temperatures occurred in the north, while the week's maximum temperature exceeded 30°C across the southwest regions. The colder than normal period posiibly slowed vegetative growth across parts of the north. For the last week of March, temperatures are expected to be warmer than average across the country according to the GFS model. Minimum temperatures are likely to be more anomalously above avarage. However, maximum temperatures for the week will likely easily exceed 30°C in the lower elevations of western and southern Afghanistan.



Precipitation:

Last week, widespread rain and high-elevation snow (more than 50mm, liquid Equivalent in the northeast) fell throughout Afghanistan for the second consecutive week. The precipitation during March continues to support a decrease in the coverage of abnormal dryness and drought. The drought hazard is based on RFE satellite estimates of 90-day precipitation deficits. During the outlook period, additional rain and high-elevation snow (10 to 75mm, liquid equivalent) are forecast for northern and eastern areas. There is an increased risk of flash flooding across northwest Afghanistan due to locally heavy rainfall, snowmelt, and recent rainfall that has likely saturated soils.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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